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*Plague in Vienna—(Continued).*

[No. 2714.]

IMPERIAL AND ROYAL AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN LEGATION,  
Washington, D. C., November 5, 1898.

Mr. SECRETARY: Several cases of plague occurred at Vienna in the middle of last month, owing to the careless self-infection of a person engaged in the service of the bacteriological institute.

The danger of an epidemic has, however, been removed by the sanitary measures which were promptly adopted.

The Government has notified the governments that took part in the International Sanitary Convention, concluded at Venice in 1897, of the occurrence of these isolated cases of plague, in accordance with the aforesaid sanitary convention, and I have been instructed to so notify the Federal Government. I request your kind mediation, Mr. Secretary of State, to this effect, and I inclose a copy of the two circulars issued by my Government.

I avail myself of this occasion to renew to you, Mr. Secretary of State, the assurance of my most distinguished consideration.

HENGELMULLER.

Hon. SECRETARY OF STATE.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

Copy of a circular bearing date of October 24, 1898, which has been addressed to the foreign embassies and legations at Vienna.

The I. and R. ministry of foreign affairs has the honor to inform the embassy (legation) of — that the governments of the signatory States of the International Convention concluded at Venice in 1897, have been informed of the occurrence of several isolated cases of plague among the personnel of the general hospital at Vienna, and likewise of the measures which were immediately ordered by the I. and R. department of the interior with a view to preventing the spread of the malady. The embassy, (legation) of — is further informed that all details concerning the progress of the disease, and the subsequent measures to which the competent authorities may have recourse, will be published in the official bulletin of the newspaper called the "Wiener Abendpost." A copy of this paper will be regularly sent to the embassy (legation) of — by the I. and R. department of the interior.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

Copy of a telegram bearing date of October 22, 1898, to the I. and R. embassy and legation at Berlin, Paris, London, Constantinople, Madrid, St. Petersburg, Rome, (Quirinal), Lisbon, the Hague, Brussels, Copenhagen, Stockholm, Athens, Bucharest, Sophia, Belgrade, Berne, Cairo.

A servant named Bariah, who was employed in the Bacteriological Institute at Vienna, contracted pestilential pneumonia owing to careless self-infection, and died in consequence thereof on the 19th instant in the isolated ward of the hospital. There was no direct contact during the progress of the disease except with Doctor Miller, the attendant physician, and two female nurses named Pecha and Hohegger. All of them were removed at once to the newly erected isolation house of the remote Francis Joseph Hospital, where they were completely isolated. The nurse Pecha and Doctor Miller were there attacked by pestilential pneumonia. Nurse Hohegger has enjoyed perfect health. Of the persons who were in indirect communication, all of whom were isolated and under the surveillance of physicians, not one has fallen sick. From the outset the most careful sanitary measures of isolation and disinfection have been employed, and all the articles used by the sick persons, their excretions, fæces, and effects have, without exception, been burned, and thus all danger of infection from the soil, pipes, etc., has been removed.

The sanitary condition of the entire population is to-day, eight days after the first case of the disease and four days after the first death, absolutely normal. You will report these facts without delay to the Government to which you are accredited, and will add that we will report anything else that may be of importance, in pursuance of the stipulations of the convention concluded at Venice. There is now no focus of disease and no danger of an epidemic.